(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Attraction of foreign tourists

3630. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether with incredible India continuing to lag far behind not only with neighbouring China but also many of the smaller countries in the South East Asian region in attracting foreign tourists, her Ministry has demanded more budget provisions for providing incentives that will give it a much needed boost;

(b) if so, to what extent her Ministry has got concessions from the budget; and

(c) what steps are being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) The Annual Plan Outlay for the Ministry of Tourism has been raised to Rs. 953.00 crores for the year 2007-08 as against a budget allocation of Rs. 830.00 crores in 2006-07. The annual Plan Outlay is utilized as per approved schemes implemented through the State Governments and Private Sector entities.

Budget hotels and accommodation to promote tourism

3631. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the tariff charged by the luxury hotels in the premier tourist destination of the country;

(b) whether Government propose to appreciate that such tariff is not affordable for common people; and